These instructions are for the removal of the Pioneer Radio & tape player (OEM version) from the center of the dash in a 2000 Lexus ES300. It appears that the technique will also work on most post-1998 models; ie, the current design ES300. It should also work on other models of Lexus and radios.

This starts with the usual game of "Find the Bolts". Experience shows that Toyota/Lexus uses four (4) metric 10mm bolts (two on the top and two at the bottom) to hold the DIN frame to the dash chassis. The 1-, 2- or 3-DIN slot frame then holds the radio/tape player/CD player and sometimes other controllers. Here we will see that it holds a 2-DIN Pioneer radio & tape player combo in the top two slots. The 3rd slot (bottom) holds a DIN sized air-conditioner controller assembly.

Now – "The Usual Warnings"

- When I say "pry off the …" mask off both surfaces first or you'll scratch something.

- To pry, use a wide, flat & sturdy tool such as this:

  A knife blade will scratch things and probably snap off.

- Place a towel over your shift level and center console or a scratch is guaranteed!

- You'll probable have to put the shift lever into drive or neutral to get the radio out. Please put on your parking brake first or you'll get one heck of a headache when your pretty Lexus rolls into the house across the street.

Now, back to the game. Where are the 4 10mm bolts hidden?

Notice that filler strip below the A/C controller and above the ashtray?

Use a flat tool, insert it below the A/C button and pry out the right side a bit.

 Now move to the left side. Insert the tool below the Temperature knob and pry out a bit.
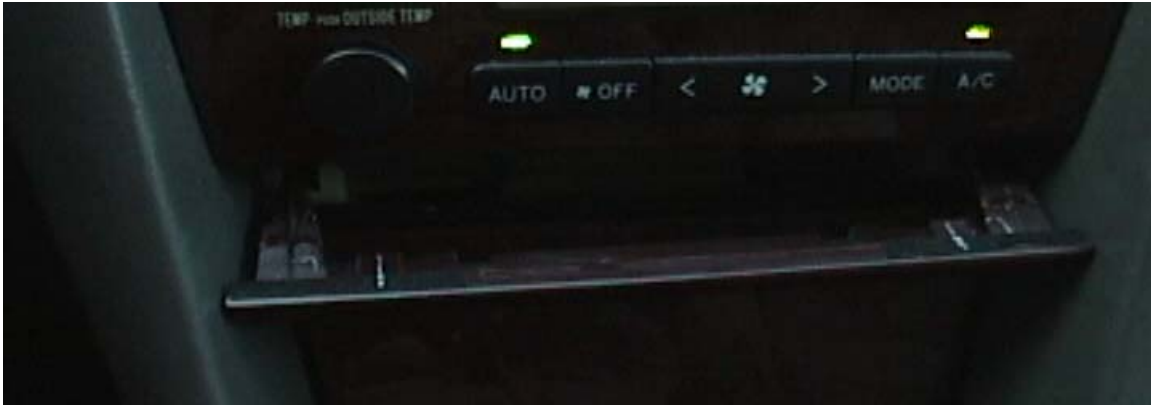
Back to the right side then the left again. You can even insert the tool on the right and left edges of the filler strip. It will pop out.

It's only held in by two snap-clips.

There are the bottom two gold colored 10mm bolts. I'm touching one with the tool. Don't loosen them yet.

Now, the hunt for the top two 10mm bolts.

<<<<<<<<

Look at that seam between the black A/C grill & Clock assembly and the wood grain radio. Insert the tool in the seam, to the right of the LEXUS Premium Sound System logo. Pry the A/C vent out a little.

Now switch to the left side; pry on the vent at the same height near the Warning
Flasher button.

>>>>>>

Next, switch to the top right side of the vent. Insert the tool and pry a little.

Now switch to the top left side of the vent and pry. The entire black vent/clock
assembly should be moving out. It's only attached by four clips.

Grap the vent with your hand and give it a tug.

Out it comes. See the two upper clips?

Disconnect the two connectors on the back. One is for the Emergency flashers and one for the clock. No need to label them, they're very different

Now look down the hole. The top two gold 10mm bolts! The silver metal part is the 3-DIN rack. Also notice the bottom clip on the vent, there's another one on the bottom right corner of the vent.

You now have all 4 10mm bolts exposed. Note that Lexus uses a plastic hanger pin at each bolt location. You can remove all of the bolts and the DIN rack will stay in place – nice touch! Remove the bottom two bolts completely. They are about 25mm long so it will take a while. Be careful – don't drop the bolts into the dash. Now remove the top two 10mm bolts.

Put the parking brake on and place the gear shift into the "2" or LOW position. Grab the radio and A/C controller with two hands and slide it out.

There are four or five connections on the back side of the radio:

- R2 – DC Power & GND
- R3 – Speakers and controls
- R4 – Multi-Display (not included on my Pioneer)
- ANT1 – a small antenna jack
- ANT2 – the older style, large antenna jack

I don't have the CD player installed in the Glove box, but the cable is there.

The following connector chart and schematic were found on the Euro Lexus Owner's Club Forum by Rodders_UK. http://www.teamlexus.co.uk/forums/viewthread.php?tid=1676
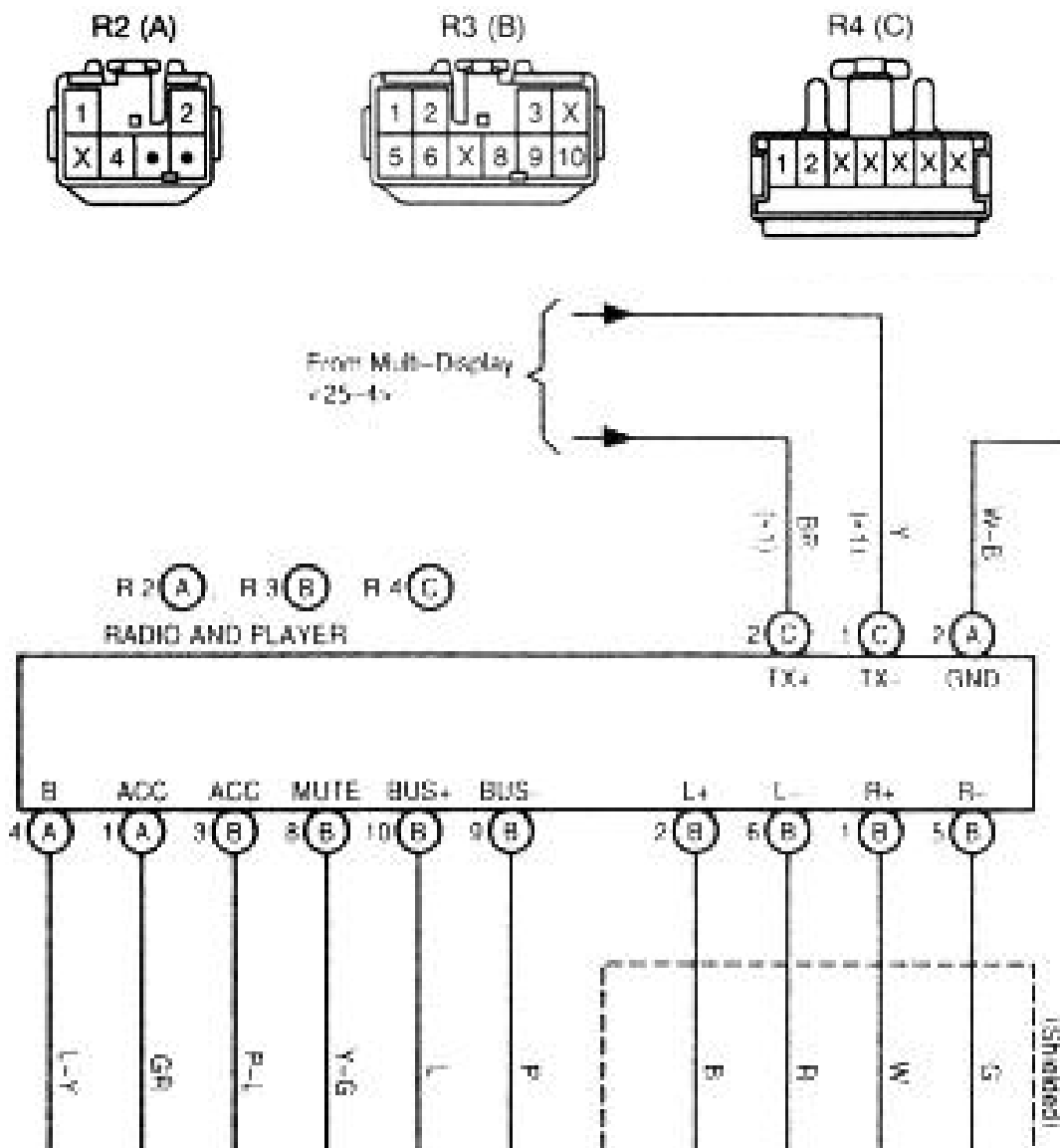
Here is the 3-DIN rack with the double DIN radio in the top two slots and the single DIN packaged A/C controller in the bottom slot. Remove the two antenna connectors first, then the two (or three) power/speaker connectors next. Last, remove the two connectors on the back of the A/C controller. Every connector is different, you shouldn't have to label them.

Look closely and you'll see that the radio is a standard Double-DIN with wings. The left wing holds the volume knob and scanner rocker switch. The right wing holds the four function select buttons for the AM, FM, Tape and CD. This probably means that any double DIN or 2 single DIN radios/tape decks/CD Players will fit. The wing gaps will need to be covered with a new, custom fascia plate.
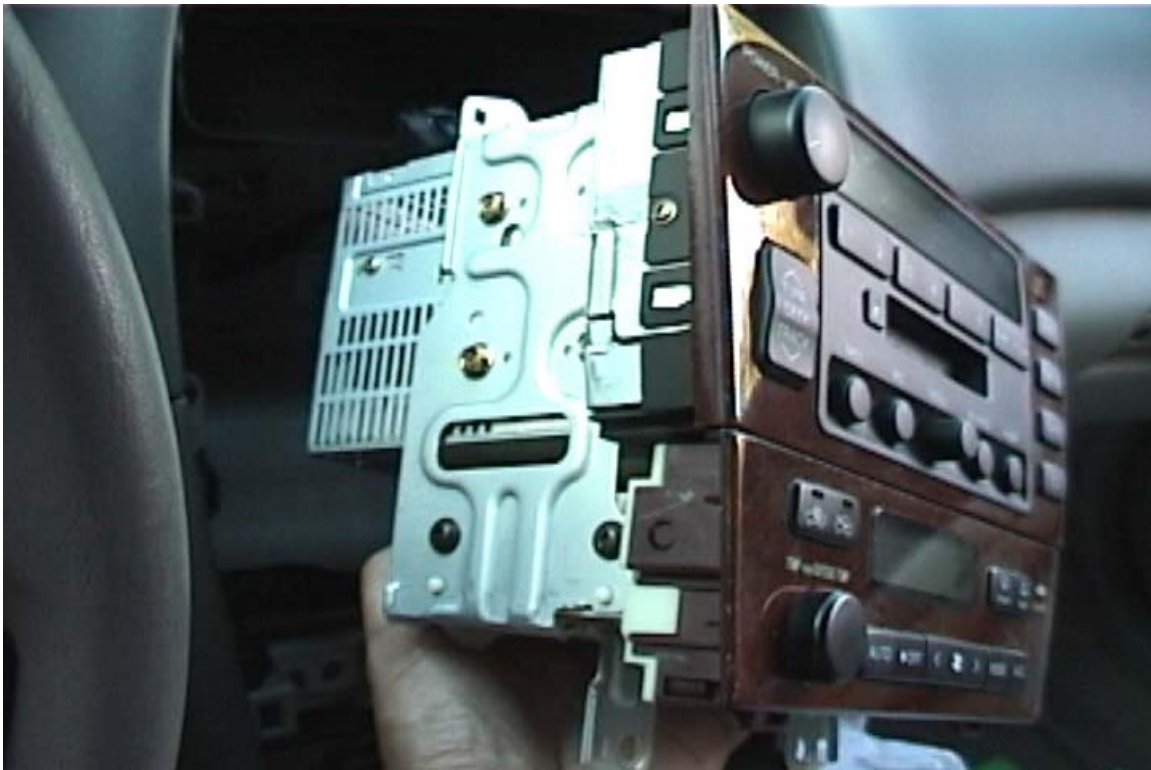
Note that four (4) gold hex head screws on each side hold the radio in the rack. Two (2) black Philips head screws hold the A/C controller in place.

Notice that there is plenty of room in the radio hole, down in the dash. There shouldn't be any problem installing an RF modulator on the OEM radio. There is also easy access to the glove box area on the right side. You can easily see the CD cable going out that way. You also have easy access to the ashtray area down below. Removing the ashtray should free up room for a MD player or MP3 player. I couldn't figure out how to get the ashtray out, that will be the subject of the next workshop!

Now, for a look at the radio.

See the R2 and R3 connectors? I think the blanked off area on the lower right is for the R4 connector that I don't have. At the top left, see the two antenna connector holes?

Here's a shot of the R2 & R3 connectors from the bottom:

And finally, the label on the bottom of the Pioneer radio.

B   A

R3   R2

Top

Figure 1 –
Connectors from the top

Bottom

Bottom

Top
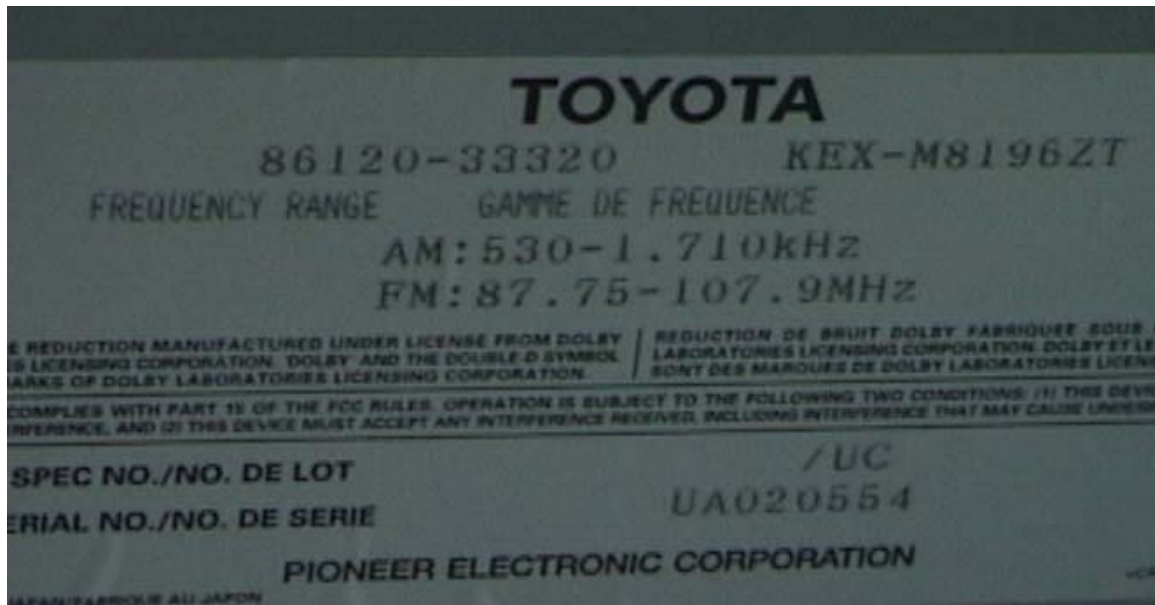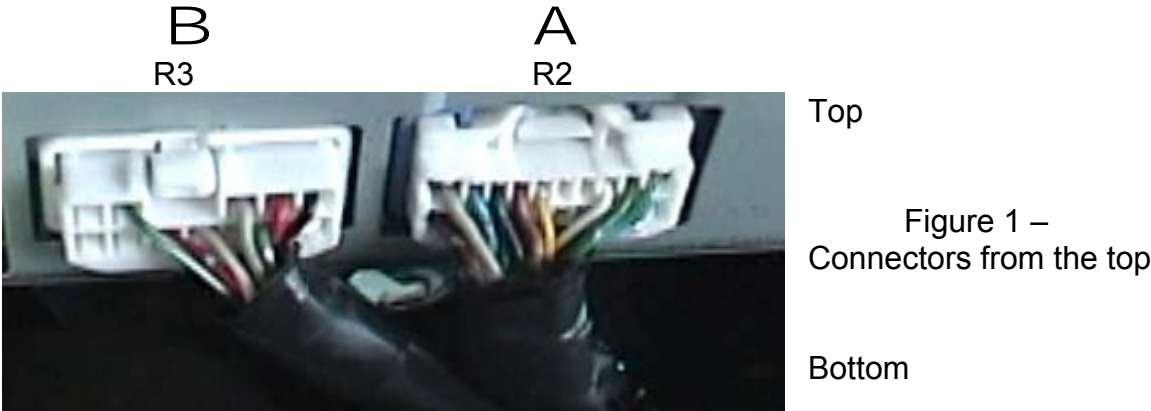
Figure 2 – Connectors from the bottom

R2   R3
A   B

R3 **B** See Figure 1 EXCEPT viewed from the FRONT side of the connector

1	2	3			4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12

DK BL	RD	GY			GR w/WH-X	
WH		X	WH	RD	X	X

R2 **A** See Figure 1 EXCEPT viewed from the FRONT side of the connector

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20

LT BL w/YL-X	YL w/BL-X	WH	X	X	YL ??	BR	DK BL	LT BL	GY
GR	X	X	X	X	WH	RD	GR	YL	BR

BK	BLACK	GR	GREEN
RD	RED	WH	WHITE
GY	GRAY	YL	YELLOW
BR	BROWN	BL	BLUE

DK	DARK
LT	LIGHT

BL w/ BK-GY

BK w/ YL-GY

STRIPE & BAND CHART

R2 A

Pin #	Color	
1	LT BL w/ YL	B+
2	YL w/ BL	TLMT
3	WH	AMP+
4		
5		
6	YL	?
7	BR	MUTE
8	DK BL	FR
9	LT BL	FL
10	GY	SHEILD
11	GR	ACC
12		
13		
14		
15		
16	WH	SGND
17	RD	BEEP
18	GR	RR
19	YL	RL
20	BR	GND

R3 B

Pin #	Color	
1	DK BL	R+ CD
2	RD	L+ CD
3	GY	SGND
4	GR w/ WH	MUTE
5		
6	WH	R- CD
7	GR	L- CD
8		
9	WH	TXM-
10	RD	TXM+
11		
12		

BK	BLACK	GR	GREEN	DK	DARK
RD	RED	WH	WHITE	LT	LIGHT
GY	GRAY	YL	YELLOW		
BR	BROWN	BL	BLUE		

BL w/ BK-GY

BK w/ YL-GY

STRIPE & BAND CHART

Appendix A
Lexus 2000 ES300 Sound System Schematic
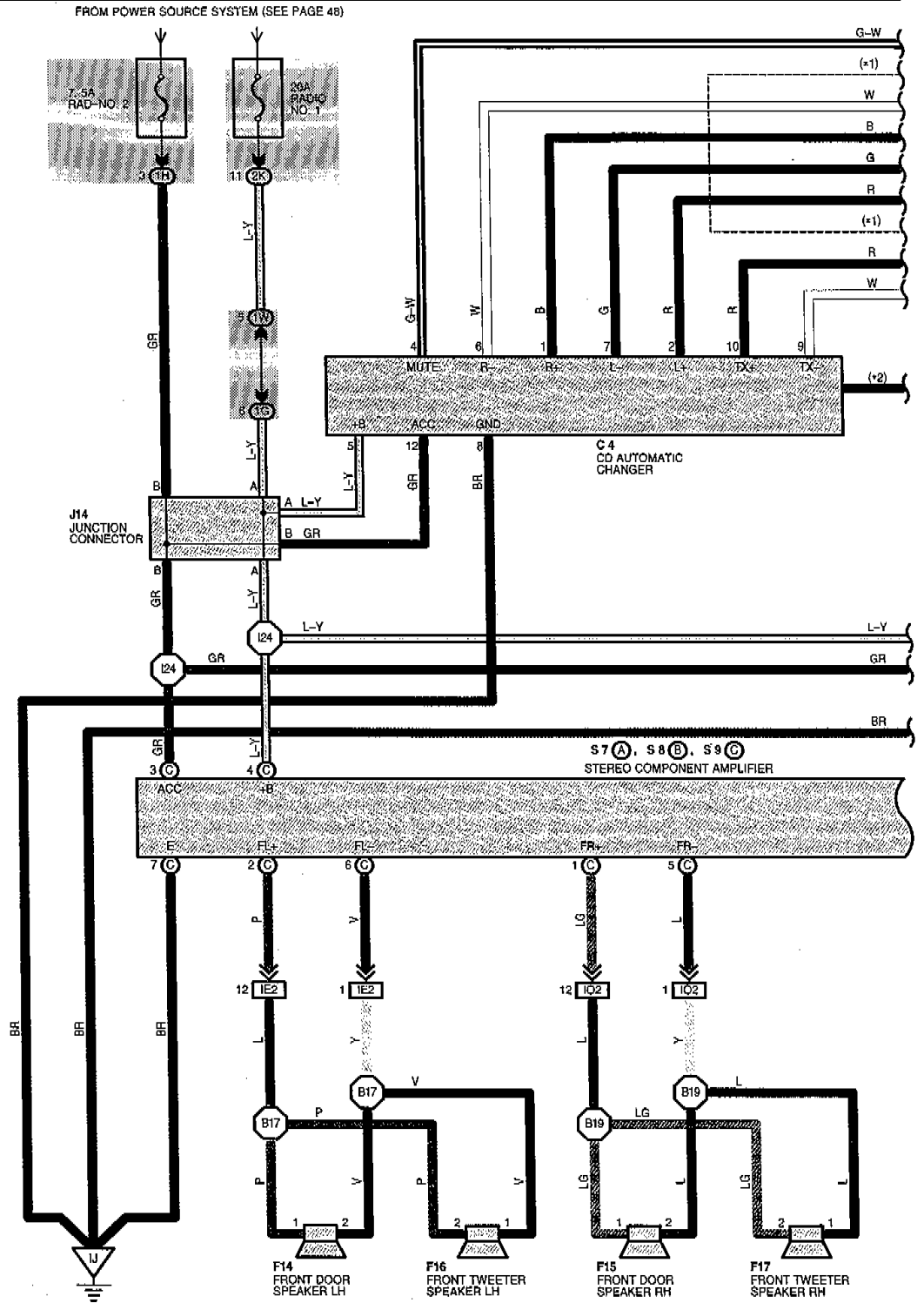
RADIO AND PLAYER
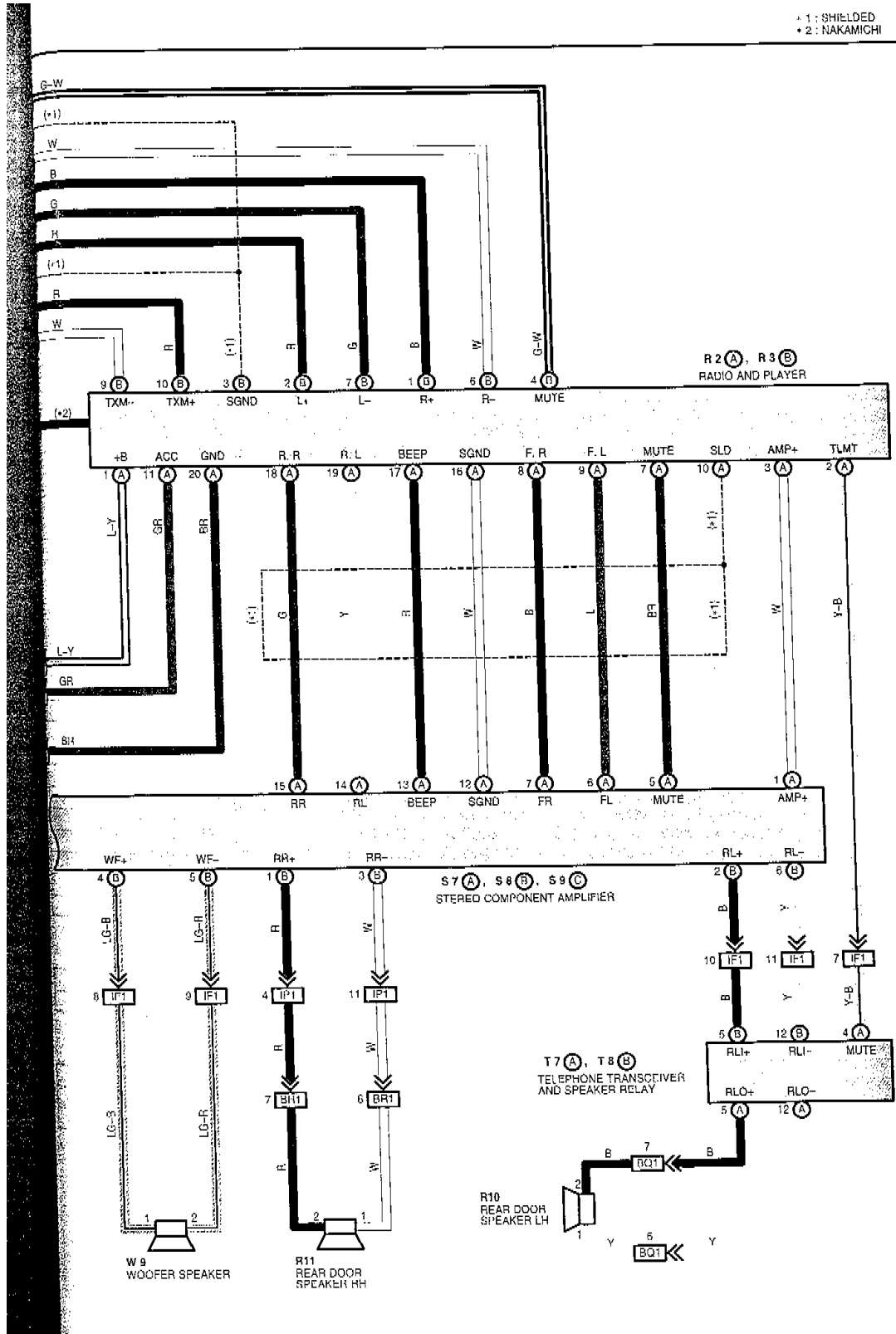
Appendix A
Lexus 2000 ES300 Sound System Schematic

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Appendix A
Lexus 2000 ES300 Sound System Schematic

RADIO AND PLAYER

SERVICE HINTS

S9 (C) STEREO COMPONENT AMPLIFIER
(C) 7–GROUND : Always continuity
(C) 3–GROUND : Approx. 12 volts with the ignition SW at ON or ACC position
(C) 4–GROUND : Always approx. 12 volts

C4 CD AUTOMATIC CHANGER
12–GROUND : Approx. 12 volts with the ignition SW at ON or ACC position
5–GROUND : Always approx. 12 volts
8–GROUND : Always continuity

R2 (A) RADIO AND PLAYER
(A) 1–GROUND : Always approx. 12 volts
(A) 11–GROUND : Approx. 12 volts with the ignition SW at ON or ACC position
(A) 20–GROUND : Always continuity

○ : PARTS LOCATION

Code	See Page	Code		See Page	Code		See Page
C4	30	R2	A	31	S9	C	31
F14	32	R3	B	31	T7	A	33
F15	32	R10		33	T8	B	33
F16	32	R11		33	W9		33
F17	32	S7	A	31			
J14	31	S8	B	31			

◨ : JUNCTION BLOCK AND WIRE HARNESS CONNECTOR

Code	See Page	Junction Block and Wire Harness (Connector Location)
1G	26	Instrument Panel Wire and Instrument Panel J/B (Lower Finish Panel)
1H		
1W	26	Cowl Wire and Instrument Panel J/B (Lower Finish Panel)
2K	22	Cowl Wire and Engine Room J/B (Engine Compartment Left)

▢ : CONNECTOR JOINING WIRE HARNESS AND WIRE HARNESS

Code	See Page	Joining Wire Harness and Wire Harness (Connector Location)
IE2	38	Front Door LH Wire and Instrument Panel Wire (Left Kick Panel)
IF1	38	Floor Wire and Instrument Panel Wire (Left Kick Panel)
IO2	40	Front Door RH Wire and Instrument Panel Wire (Right Kick Panel)
IP1	40	Floor No.2 Wire and Instrument Panel Wire (Right Kick Panel)
BQ1	42	Rear Door LH Wire and Floor Wire (Left Center Pillar)
BR1	42	Rear Door RH Wire and Floor No.2 Wire (Right Center Pillar)

▽ : GROUND POINTS

Code	See Page	Ground Points Location
IJ	38	Instrument Panel Brace RH

⬡ : SPLICE POINTS

Code	See Page	Wire Harness with Splice Points	Code	See Page	Wire Harness with Splice Points
I24	40	Instrument Panel Wire	B19	42	Front Door RH Wire
B17	42	Front Door LH Wire			

Appendix B
BlizSafe Aux Input Converter Lexus 2000 ES300

By Autotoys

http://store.autotoys.com/cgi-
bin/wfp53024.storefront/EN/Product/LEXUSAUXCONVERTERNONNAK

Blitzsafe connector P3　　　[mates with Pioneer R3 B]

Pin #	P3 Color	P6 Color	R3 Color	Signal
1	LT BL	LT BL	DK BL	R+ CD
2	BR	BR	RD	L+ CD
3	GR	GR	GY	SGND
4	GY		GR w/ WH	MUTE
5	BK			
6	WH	WH	WH	R- CD
7	OR	OR	GR	L- CD
8	DK BL			
9	RD	RD	WH	TXM-
10	VL	VL	RD	TXM+
11				
12	YL			

| Flying Leads:	RD – ACCY	YL - +12	BK – GND

TXM +/- is the serial data bus used by the head unit & the CD player to pass control & data (CD text) information. The BlitzSafe adapter sends a fake message to the HU to fool it into thinking a CD player is attached & ready.

When the HU is switched to radio or tape, the external music source continues to play over the desired sound. Switching the HU to CD is simply a way to get the HU to not play any other sounds in addition to the external music.

Appendix B
BlizSafe Aux Input Converter Lexus 2000 ES300

BK	BLACK	GR	GREEN	VL	VIOLET
RD	RED	WH	WHITE		
GY	GRAY	YL	YELLOW	DK	DARK
BR	BROWN	BL	BLUE	LT	LIGHT

BL w/ BK-GY

BK w/ YL-GY
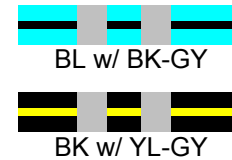
STRIPE & BAND CHART

P3 Viewed from the FRONT side of the FEMALE connector

1	2	3			4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12

LT BL	BR	GR			GY	
WH		DK BL	RD	VL	X	YL

P4/5 Viewed from the FRONT side of the MALE connector

5	4			3	2	1
12	11	10	9	8	7	6

BK	GY			GR	BR	
YL		VL	RD	DK BL	OR	WH

Appendix B
BlizSafe Aux Input Converter Lexus 2000 ES300

LEXUS 2000 ES300
Pioneer Radio   KEX-M8196ZT

R3

R2

P3

W4
TO LEXUS
HARNESS

W1

P4

P5

P4

P6

W3
TO LEXUS
HARNESS

RCA L/R

RED - ACCY

YELLOW +12

BLACK - GND

BLITZSAFE
BOX

EXIST

BLITZ
SAFE